

REMARKS

Prior to this Response, claims 1-26 were pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 15 and 19 have been amended. Claims 27-34 have been added. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-34 are presented for examination.. No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,763,025 to Leatherbury et al. (hereinafter "Lea"). Applicants respectfully traverse as Leatherbury fails to teach or suggest all of the recitations of these claims as amended.

Claim 1, as amended, recites detecting a request to obtain a content object from a content provider and redirecting the request to a node of the network different than the content provider. At least a portion of the content object is received at the node and the content object is stored at the node. These recitations are not taught or suggested by Leatherbury.

Leatherbury discloses a communication system to distribute source information to a headend. Leatherbury, col. 6, ll. 16-20. The headend then distributes the source information to one or more distribution hubs, which then distribute the information to one or more nodes. Id., col. 6, ll. 22-24. The nodes distribute the source information to one or more subscriber destinations. Id., col. 6, ll. 24-26. Leatherbury also discloses that the distribution hub includes a channel interface module with external memory for data payload buffering. Id., col. 13, l. 67 to col. 14, l. 2.

In contrast to claim 1, Leatherbury fails to teach or suggest redirecting a request to obtain a content object from a content provider to a node on the network different than the content provider. Leatherbury also fails to teach or suggest that the content object is stored at a node. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-15 and 27-31 depend on claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants also respectfully submit that these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Applicants also respectfully submit that claim 15 is allowable. Claim 15, as amended, recites a content distribution system that comprises a node that relays a content object that originated from the content provider and "stores portions of content objects in at least one of a cache and a file system." Although Leatherbury discloses that the distribution hub may include a buffer, Applicants respectfully submit that a buffer cannot be equated with a cache or a file system. Therefore, Applicants believe claim 15 and its dependent claims 16-19 and 32 are allowable for at least this reason.

Claim 20 recites sending the content object from one of the plurality of content providers to a cache with the network. The Office Action equated the cache of claim 20 with data payload buffer in the distribution hub of Leatherbury. However, Applicants respectfully submit that buffer and cache are not equivalent and have different meanings to one skilled in the art. Therefore, Applicants respectfully that claim 20 and its dependent claims 21-27 are also allowable.

Applicants also respectfully submit that newly added claims 33 and 34 are allowable. Claim 33 recites receiving a content object in a first streaming protocol, transcoding the content object to a second streaming protocol, and streaming the content object in the second streaming protocol to a content receiver. Applicants believe that Leatherbury fails to teach or suggest transcoding a content object from a first streaming protocol to a second streaming protocol and sending the content object in the second streaming protocol to a content receiver.

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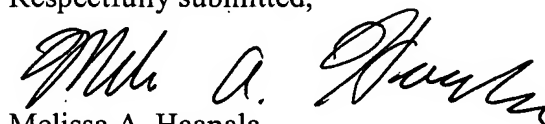
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,


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